

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Counterpoise



April 2012



PROGRAM: JOE N6SZO & JOE KE6PHB

THURSDAY April 12, 2012 7:00 pm [Click Here for Location and Directions](#)

VHF MOBILE & ON-FOOT TRANSMITTER HUNTING (T-HUNTS),
EQUIPMENT, TECHNIQUES, INSIGHTS & EXAMPLES.

By: Joe, N6SZO & Joe KE6PHB



Join us at
First Lutheran Church
867 S. Lincoln Ave
El Cajon, CA
Thursday, April 12, 2012



2012 Officers

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| President | Steve Weed | KO4QT |
| Vice President | Nick Prodanavich | AD6UK |
| Secretary | Tom Wilson | KI6ABZ |
| Treasurer | Joseph Matterson | KI6TTF |
| Past President | Dave Santoro | W6BTS |

2012 Board Of Directors

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Raymond Boisvert | W1CTM |
| Quinn Lacey | KI6LAT |
| Steve St. Martin | KG6VVO |
| Dave Ward | KI6GRN |
| Daniel Warner | KJ6IOB |
| Karen Hollaway | KJ6DWX |

2012 Standing Committees

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Antenna Party: | Tom Myrick | N6JOJ |
| Counterpoise Editor: | Tom Wilson | KI6ABZ |
| Education: | | |
| Estate Sales : | Tom Myrick | N6JOJ |
| Field Day: | Joseph | KI6UPY |
| Health & Welfare: | Dave Ward | KI6GRN |
| Historian : | | |
| Membership : | | |
| Net Manager: | | |
| Photographer: | YOU! | |
| Prizes: | Daniel Warner | KJ6IOB |
| Social Chair : | Teresa Boisvert | |
| Swap Meet: | Tom Myrick | N6JOJ |
| WA6BGS Trustee: | Michael Martak | AE6CQ |
| WS6F Trustee: | Pat Bunsold | WA6MHZ |
| Webmaster : | Joseph | KI6UPY |

www.WA6BGS.US

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Upcoming Events

APRIL, 2012

April 12, 7:00 PM: Membership meeting.
Budget approval.T-hunting & Direction finding

MAY, 2012

May 5: General License class. Get your first license or
Upgrade to access HF.

JUNE, 2012

June 23 10:00 AM - June 24 10:00 AM: Field Day, 24
hour operating event under emergency conditions.

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Club Call Sign | WA6BGS |
| Website | www.WA6BGS.US |
| Field Day | http://arcec.wa6bgs.us |
| Members Only | www.WA6BGS.US/monly |
| Yahoo Group | www.yahogroups.com/elcajonarc |
| Club Contest Call | WS6F |
| Club Call Trustee | AE6CQ Michael Martak |
| Club Contest Call | NF9T Tuck Miller |

Telephone 619 663-6011
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, Inc.
PO Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

ARCEC Counterpoise

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon publishes a monthly newsletter, where members and officers can post information of interest to other members. Our policy is to publish only information that is related to Amateur Radio. If a member wishes to submit a topic that is not Amateur Radio related, please submit a copy to the newsletter editor or any club officer, and the matter will be discussed and decided upon by the Board of Directors. **Submissions are due on the 3rd Thursday of each month!!**

60 Meter Changes

For those of you who use 60 meters, take note: On March 5, the FCC changed the rules for the 60 meter HF band. You can now use data, digital, and CW modes on 60 meters. You can now use data on 60 meters, transmit 100 watts on USB, and a new channel has been added (another has been removed.)

Here's a brief summary of the new rules:

1. Listen before transmitting. Make sure to allow time between go-arounds when using digital modes. Don't "quick key" on digital or voice modes. The recommendation is 3 minutes. Also, only one conversation is allowed per channel (even when using digital modes.)
2. The frequencies are listed to the right. Note that 5366.5 is no longer valid, and 5357.0 has opened up. This means transceivers with channelized access to 60 meters can now transmit illegally on 5336.5, so use caution.
3. For voice, PSK, RTTY, or other digital modes, set your carrier frequency to the channel edge (such as 5330.5)
4. For digital modes, pick a spot on the waterfall at or near 1.5kHz.
5. When sending CW, first listen for sideband signals. Then set your rig to CW and tune up 1.5k. Keep your filter open wide, so you can hear SSB transmissions.
6. The power limit is 100 watts *relative to a dipole*. So remember to cut your transmit power in half for every 3dB of gain on a beam antenna.

For more information, see <http://hfink.com/5mhz/>

| USB/Digital | CW |
|-------------|--------|
| 5330.5 | 5332.0 |
| 5346.5 | 5348.0 |
| 5357.0 | 5358.5 |
| 5371.5 | 5373.0 |
| 5403.5 | 5404.0 |

Oriflamme Run

April 7, 2012

Tom Wilson, KI6ABZ

The Oriflamme run, which was scheduled for March 17 was rescheduled and held on April 7, the day before Easter.

This was a fun event for the runners and for the crew. Several members of our club worked the event: Steve KO4QT, Karen KJ6DWX, Nick AD6UK, Tim KJ6LHV, Daniel KJ6IOB, and Tom KI6ABZ. Special thanks also go out to John McNelly, AF6UA, for coming out and helping as well.

Tom and Daniel arrived at the starting line at 6 AM—the sun wasn't even up yet, but runners were already starting to get underway. After setting up the trailer, we found that conditions were great for talking to all of our stations, and the Diamond V2000 antenna worked beautifully for talking to all of the stations—even at 5 watts.

Operating the race itself kept us all pretty busy: things never really stopped: the operators at each checkpoint took the numbers of runners coming through the sites. Between writing down their updates and keeping our lists straight, Daniel and I had our hands full. There really wasn't much time during the day when we weren't busy.

We also communicated with Sheriff's Search and Rescue volunteers (some of whom are also hams) to help locate and assist any injured or stranded runners.

There were a couple of scares: one runner disappeared completely from the course for a while, and a couple of runners stopped on the course and needed help from Search and Rescue.

Contact Information:

Web Site: www.wa6bgs.us
Club eMail: officers@wa6bgs.us
President: president@wa6bgs.us
Vice President: vicepresident@wa6bgs.us
Secretary: secretary@wa6bgs.us
Treasurer: treasurer@wa6bgs.us
Counterpoise: counterpoise@wa6bgs.us
Past President: president@wa6bgs.us

Phone: **619-663-6011**

On Air Nets

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon sponsors 5 weekly nets. These are on-air conversations where you can meet fellow amateur radio operators and work your club members to receive awards. Net participants earn participant points, which go toward prizes at the end of the year.

Monday Nights 7:00 PM on all club repeaters
The Donut Net with Axel KI6RRN. This is a fun net, with trivia and discussion. There will be talk of sweet, sugary snacks.

Tuesday Nights 8:00 PM on all club repeaters
The Wide Open Ham net is hosted by Frito. Frito will almost certainly ask how your day went, and discussion of food is almost certainly going to follow.

Wednesday Nights 8:00 PM on all club repeaters
The WAMO net with Daniel is an opportunity to talk to club members, earn points toward a WAMO award, and maybe learn a little about amateur radio along the way. We probably won't be talking about food.

Thursday Night 7:00 PM on 28.435
Frito graces us once again with his indomitable personality and cheerful demeanor. This is a simplex net on 10 meters, in the allocation open to all hams – even Technicians. At some point, the net may move up to the club system, so be listening on 147.42

Saturday Night 8:00 PM on all club repeaters
The weekend WAMO net is headed up by Heather and Margaret. Take another chance and work those WAMO's. In case you're wondering: yes, it *is* a contest.

WAMO stands for "Worked All Members Once"
This award is given to club members who can work 20 other club members.

To work a WAMO, exchange call signs, WAMO numbers, and first names. Log this information, and once you've logged 20 contacts, send in your log to WAMO@wa6bgs.us for your award.

After that, the awards pile up: each 5 WAMO's worked is another rung on the ladder to WAMO greatness. How long will it take you to reach 100?

WA6BGS Repeaters

| RX | Offset | Tone | |
|---------|-----------|-------|---|
| 147.420 | (146.475) | 107.2 | Club Repeaters are open to all licensed operators. Please yield to nets and priority calls. |
| 224.080 | (-) | 107.2 | |
| 445.900 | (-) | 107.2 | |

It was a fun event, and everyone involved enjoyed the day. An event like this gave us a great chance to check out our Go Kits and to shake the bugs out of our portable operating systems. We also have learned that we need to streamline the process at net control to track missing or lost checkins.

We're looking forward to operating at future events, and we're hoping to see more involvement from other members of the club: If you'd like to volunteer for future events, keep your eyes on our web site: www.wa6bgs.us

Positions Open

Make a Difference

The ARCEC is looking for volunteers for several posts: we need people to teach license classes, a membership chair, a net manager, and a permanent publisher for the *Counterpoise* newsletter.

For more information, please contact an officer at officers@wa6bgs.us

Recovering our lost members

Do you know members or past members of the club that haven't been receiving updates from the websites?

Do you know past members who are no longer with the club?

Let your friends know that joining or re-joining the club is easier than ever: you can use the form at the end of this newsletter, or you can sign up through our web site at www.wa6bgs.us

Driving Directions to meeting:

From the West:

Take I-8 East, Exit El Cajon Blvd/Chase Ave. At the end of the ramp, turn right onto Chase Avenue. Go about 1.5 miles to South Lincoln Avenue. Lincoln will be 1 block after Avocado Drive. Turn left on South Lincoln. We are 2 blocks up on the right.

From the East:

Take I-8 West, Exit Mollison Avenue. Go South on Mollison about 2 miles to Washington. Turn right on Washington. Go 1 block and turn left on South Lincoln. We are 1 block up on the left.

Membership Meeting

Minutes

February 9, 2012

Called to order at 7:05 PM. roughly 35 people were in attendance.

The club recited Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes from Jan 2012 read by Tom Wilson, Tom JOJ motioned to accept.

Minutes as edited were approved by majority vote.

Steve: Treasurer resigned as of Tuesday night. No treasurer report tonight. We cannot pass a budget tonight. We may need to call a special meeting to approve budget.

The program tonight is a video tour of the USS Midway, courtesy of Steve Weed and starring John Movius WA6JUS.

Social break at 8:42 PM

The meeting was re-convened at 8:53

Nick announced next speakers: Marty Woll in March, Joe Coronas in April

Upcoming activities:

Feb 18: is dry run for the ORIFlamme 50k

Feb 25: build and tune antennas at the shed/storage facility

March: TBA

April: Building 2 meter Yagi antennas. Date TBD

4 Visitors: George KJ6TOB, Carl Reisesse, Mike KJ6TOI (new ham), Tim N6COX (call sign is not correct),

Steve announced the Yuma Hamfest. <http://www.yumahamfest.org/>

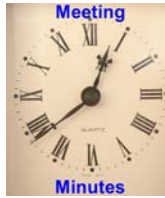
Steve recapped Quartzfest: 66311 people, 400 RV's, special event W7Q 977 contacts, Amateur TV with 2-meter talkback to speaker.

Next year will be longer: ten days. Jan 15-25, 2013

QRZ owner Fred was there. Fred may come do field day with the club. Gordon West may also participate.

Steve announced radio that was donated by Bruce Palmer KT4ET

Steve announced the radio for sale by Richard N6WWC.



Steve announced he will be out of town next month. Nick will chair the meetings. Steve will attempt to participate via Skype

About net operators: not all operators are following polices and turning in logs of net participants. Not doing this is hurting club members by not giving them their participation points.

Support for club: come to meetings, attend events, invite hams that you meet, wear your club tee. Participate in the nets.

Ray talked about WAMO's. A certificate is awarded for 20 contacts, and stickers are given for each 5 after that.

Steve talked about jamming: best reaction is no reaction.

Steve announced that WAMO numbers will be issued to licensed operators.

Daniel announced the quick WAMO list.

Appointments announced:

Need a counterpoise editor, as Tuck has resigned. Tom Wilson will publish the Counterpoise until a new editor is found.

Tom N6JOJ handles estate sales, swap meet sales, etc.

Awards committee: Dan kj6iobRay W1CTM will lead awards committee, need 2 members from membership.

Health and Welfare: Dave Ward KI6GRN

Tom JOJ announced that Lou Dunn has been in and out of the hospital twice recently and is currently ill

Board Happenings

The board is considering a bylaws change to allow for special elections of certain officers in the event the sitting officer retires. We'll be discussing this again at the April meeting and possibly bringing this issue to the membership in the next membership meeting.

Our treasurer, Joseph KI6TTF should be ready with a budget at the April meeting. The club can't spend money without an approved budget. This means we can't pay necessary bills, so your attendance at the April membership meeting to vote on this budget is vital.

Work continues on Field Day preparation. Your Field Day chair, Joseph KI6UPY, should have some good information for us at the April meeting.

Technical Committee

March 12, 2012

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is most fortunate to have one of the Premier Repeater systems in Southern California; in a spectacular Radio location.

Located at the Water tank facility in western Crest, this site overlooks the El Cajon valley and provides HT coverage from

Mexico to well into North County and beyond. Mobiles can sometimes key it up in LA!

The repeater system consists of a 2 meter, 222, and 450 Band repeater set all with Duplexers and a Triplexer to feed it into one high gain antenna.

The 2 meter repeater, on 147.420 (146.475 TX Odd Split!) is a Ultra High quality and dependable Motorola Mitrek setup. There are two 2M extra band-pass cavities to provide superior lockout of unwanted frequency interference and intermod.

On 222 band, we have a the frequency of 224.080 (222.480 TX) and the repeater is a CW Electronics brand. This is due for replacement at some time in the future.

Finally, on the 450 band, our WA6BGS repeater is on 445.900 (440.900 TX) and is another Motorola Mitrek. It also has a receive pre-amp and a circulator on the transmitter. The Controller for the works is a RLC-2, which runs all 3 repeaters nicely.

PL (CTCSS Tone) is 107.2 for all WA6BGS Repeaters

Reliable power is supplied by an Astron RS-35M which loafs along at this load.

There is lots of activity on the WA6BGS repeater system, and the 3 are linked together for the WAMO nets and at other times when required.

CLUB NETS

Tune in the following times to hear the most popular nets.

- Monday, 7:00 PM Donut net. There is a trivia question and general interest topic.
- Tuesday, 7:00 PM Wide Open net run by Frito, N6WKB, a life member of the ARCEC. The Wide

Open net is “almost everything goes” and share what you had

for dinner.

- Wednesday, 8:00 PM is the WAMO net. Early check-ins start at

7:45 pm.

- Thursday, 7:00 PM is the Frito’s 10 meter Net. This net is run

by Frito, N6WKB, and with guests as net control now and then.

Around about 7:30 PM the net moves over to this frequency and

continues till about 8 pm.

- Saturday, 8:00 PM is the Saturday WAMO net. Early check-ins

start at 7:45 pm.

--

Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ

Curator, Crest Radio Museum

Chair, Technical Committee, Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, Inc.

2012

Tower Trailer Committee Chair Report

4/02/12

To BoD ARCEC WA6BGS

Tower Trailer maintenance is scheduled for April 7th at the Club shed. The tower is not known to be fully operational. After replacing the switch an attempt at erection was made and the tower would not erect. The inspection and attention of more than one person will probably resolve the issue. We have three rebuilt limit switches and if only one is bad it should be back in operation in short order.

The scheduled use of the Tower Trailer is:

- April 7 Tower Trailer maintenance
- April 28 Tower Trailer Training
- June 16 Kids Day Field Day Practice
- June 22-24 Field Day 2012

Awards & Recognition Committee

March 12, 2012

At the March club meeting a Certificate of Appreciation for the following was presented to

- Tom Walker (KD6JXR) WAMO# 1034
- Bob Smith (WB6ODR) WAMO 0069
- Angelo Boccia (WB6MNR) WAMO 0036
- Marco Thorne (KF6SXZ) WAMO 1494

Certificates will be mailed to the individuals not at the club meeting.

Daniel Warner, KJ6IOB, 1840

Chair, Awards & Recognition Committee, Amateur Radio Club of El

Cajon, Inc. 2012



Field Day T-Shirt LOGO Contest

Winning LOGO to be selected at our April 12th Club meeting. Field Day T-Shirt history: This year is our 6th Annual Field Day T-Shirt contest which was started back in 2007 by our Club's 2006/2007 Vice President Ed Felter AI6O. We've seen a variety of designs over the years. 2007 was a "Log Cabin" theme, 2008 was a "Spider", 2009 was back to the "Log Cabin/Mountain" theme, 2010 was a "tent and dipole in a pine forest", 2011 was a "spider", and what will 2012 bring?

Have you started working on your LOGO for our 2012 ARCEC Field Day T-Shirts yet? If your design wins the contest, you'll receive a "free" Field Day T-Shirt with your LOGO prominently displayed on the back.

Rules: your logo must have in it

1. Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
2. Field Day 2012
3. WA6BGS
4. No reference to the ARRL (this is an Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon shirt not ARRL)
5. Have no more than three colors, plus the "white" of the shirt

Don't forget...

Club Meetings

The ARCEC Board of Directors meets the first Tuesday of each month. The membership meets on the second Thursday. The BoD meetings are open to any member who wishes to attend. The membership meetings are open to everyone

If you wish to join the club, learn about ham radio, or even get your license, please come to the next membership meeting and learn what this hobby is all about.

Field Day Chair Report

April 4, 2012

Joseph KI6UPY

1. Site Selection

Three sites were reviewed.

Preliminary permission was obtained from each site prior to the evaluation.

Site: Cubic

Pros: Easy, Repeatable, Large area

Cons: No publicity

Site: Harbor Island

Pros: Great HF, Great Public

Cons: No overnight, limited parking

Pros: Santee Lakes

Pros: Previous experience, great public, good community relationship

Cons: Setup requires precautionary measures

The site selected by the FD2012 Committee is Santee lakes.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS LEADING UP TO FIELD DAY:

April

April 12 Club Meeting - T-shirt logos due
April 28 Military Tower Training at Club Shed

May

May 10 Club Meeting – T-shirt logo decision
May 19 Tower Trailer Training (Club shed)

June

June 9 Antenna Tuning Party (Club shed)
June 14 Club Meeting & FD Plan Review
June 17 ARRL Kid's Day – 10AM-4PM (Santee Lakes)
June 22 FD Setup - 1PM-6PM (Santee Lakes)
June 23-24 Field Day (Santee Lakes)

Tasks in progress

1. Field Day Website revamp
2. Site layout
3. Station Schedule
4. Inventory of parts, cable, antenna, and filters
5. Site layout



Treasurer Report

Report Date April 3, 2012Data Date March 30, 2012

| <u>Bank Account</u> | <u>Beginning</u> | <u>Deposits</u> | <u>Debits</u> | <u>Ending</u> | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| Savings | 1050.67 | 0.04 | | 1050.71 | |
| Checking | 1267.66 | 274.00 | | 1541.66 | |
| | 2318.33 | | | 2592.37 | A |
| | | | 0.00 | | |
| Debits | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Deposits Outstanding | | 0.00 | | 0.00 | C |

| <u>Pay Pal Account</u> | <u>Beginning</u> | <u>Deposits</u> | <u>Debits</u> | <u>Ending</u> | |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| | 687.27 | | | 687.27 | B |
| | | Fees | | | |

As of: April 3, 2012 \$ 3,279.64 A+B+C

All dollar amounts as of March 30, 2012

Outstanding Deposits

3/16/2012 Member Dues \$ 20.00

Outstanding Checks

687 SOS- Filing Fee \$ - Returned by SOS

690 El Cajon Nameplate \$ 77.04

691 El Cajon Nameplate \$ 86.20

\$ 163.24



The **AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF EL CAJON**^{Inc.}
WA6BGS Post Office Box Fifty, El Cajon California 92022
Founded 1960 ~ Incorporated 1976

Please fill out this form and see the options at the bottom for Submitting options

Date of Application: _____

Amount Paid: \$ _____ ☐ Cash or ☐ Check Check #: _____

Membership Type: ☐ Individual (\$20) ☐ Family (\$35)
Membership Status: ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Returning Member
Call Sign: First Name: Last Name: WAMO # (If renewing or returning):

ARRL Member: ☐ Yes ☐ No
License Class: ☐ Technician ☐ General ☐ Extra ☐ Other:
Address: City: State: Zip: PO Box:

Email ID: Phone:

Would you like a member badge? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Add Additional Members Here (Family Package):

| First Name | Last Name | Call Sign | License Class | Wamo # | Badge |
|------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|--------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | <input type="radio"/> |
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| | | | | | <input type="radio"/> |
| | | | | | <input type="radio"/> |

Submitting This Form

To submit this form mail it to P.O. Box 50 El Cajon, 92022

-OR-

Bring to the next club meeting or go to www.wa6bgs.us and join on line (click on Club info / Join)

Cash Payments - Get a Receipt from the Club Treasurer. Make all checks payable to AMATEUR RADIO CLUB of EL CAJON, Incorporated. Receipts for payments by check will be sent by email or regular mail by the Club Treasurer.

Members with FCC Call Signs are Full Members with voting privileges, Members without FCC Call Signs are Associate members without voting privileges

YOUR DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE: Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, Inc. is a 501©7 Corporation. Donations are NOT tax Deductable.